The Marker Lamp

Volume 59 Number 4 Fall 2013

New LSR Web Page

A user's guide *page 9*

Zephyr Cars

On the way to Austin *page 7*

Tulsa LDSIG/OpSig

A field report *page 19*

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The Marker Lamp

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The Lone Star Region of the
National Model Railroad Association

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The editorial policy of The Marker Lamp, the official publication of The Lone Star Region, shall be to contribute, wherever possible, to the promotion, growth and understanding of the hobby of Model Railroading, within the confines of good taste and responsibility. The Marker Lamp is published once each quarter by and for the members of The Lone Star Region of The National Model Railroad Association. Articles appearing in The Marker Lamp are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policies of the officers or membership of The Lone Star Region or The National Model Railroad Association. Address all correspondence, news, photos and drawings to the editor. All material will be gladly accepted and will be used depending on the availability of space and suitability of material. None will be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided. Correspondence relating to Pike Ads and Dealer Ads should be addressed to Donna Orr, 2625 Rolling Meadows Dr., Rockwall, TX 75087 (972) 722-4769 dlo-rls@sbcglobal.net.

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Ken Ehler's fantastic layout
in Tulsa, OK
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President's Message

by Steve Barkley
photos by author

It's election time! This year the Lone Star Region will elect Directors for Divisions 2, 4, 6 and 8. We will also elect the 3 At-Large Directors. This is a great time for YOU to become more involved with your Lone Star Region. I ask each of you to consider for running for office, volunteering to serve on a committee, helping with the annual convention, or perhaps manning a recruiting table at one of the many train shows that are held each year in Texas and Louisiana.

As an example, here are Mike and Leslie Bodak manning a recruiting booth at the recent Galveston Railroad Museum Train Show held October 5 & 6:

Leslie is the Division 8 Director and Mike is the LSR Secretary. Both were elected this year and took office at the Dallas convention last June. As you can see, they enjoy their jobs!

Let's talk about you running for office. Every election the challenge for the Nominations Committee is finding candidates. Last year, only the LSR Treasurer position was contested. Donna Orr won and is doing a great job as treasurer.

The Lone Star Region needs candidates! Running for office is a great way for you to become more involved with the LSR whether you win or lose your election. You'll meet modelers from all over the LSR. You'll learn about opportunities to serve as a committee member and in other positions. Once you show interest, you will be offered more opportunities for involvement than you can imagine.

For most of us in the LSR, Model Railroading is a social hobby. We enjoy meeting with other modelers. Show and Tell is still fun! Operating sessions give us the opportunity to run on fantastic layouts while learning from other participants. I know of no better way for any LSR member to broaden his or her involvement than to run for office. So, call, write or email the Nominations Chair, Blake Bogs, and let him know that you want to run for one of the open offices. He will be glad to hear from you! Here's his contact information:

Blake Bogs
8202 Pine Thistle Ln.
Spring, TX 77379
281-655-0177
superchief15@yahoo.com

If you are thinking about the NMRA Achievement Program, serving in most LSR positions will earn you points towards the Association Volunteer Certificate for your activities. Some positions earn points towards the Association Official Certificate.

Here's Chuck Lind, one of our past Directors, at the show promoting the upcoming 2015 National Narrow Gauge Convention to be held in Houston:

Take your modeling to the next step and run for office. If you would prefer to be involved in committees let your division director know or email me: BaylorMax@aol.com.

Either way you will meet new friends, expand your modeling, and most importantly, have fun!

Steve Barkley, MMR

Modeling to escape versus modeling to engage

By Riley Triggs

A long running discussion with a friend of mine, Gerry Fitzgerald (a C&O modeler in Virginia), produced a crystallized thought for me this week. Our discussion has involved many people over the course of several years dating back to an article he wrote in issue No.36 of the *Layout Design Journal* on modeling Jim Crow railroading.

The discussion has centered around how to model historically accurate segregation found in railroads, but it also has included whether or not it should be modeled at all. I'm not going to discuss that topic, but rather the root cause for this difference of opinion: there are those that tend to pursue model railroading to be comforted by history, and those that tend to pursue model railroading to understand history.

These differences in approach to the hobby are often the cause for tension in general model railroading forums amongst those who feel threatened by 'the other.' We name our others as rivet counters, roundy-rounders, static modelers, freelancers, prototype modelers, etc.

As in the world in general, there is plenty of room for different pursuits in modeling railroads, and it is unproductive to discount any of them simply because one does not subscribe to the same pursuit. In the end, we are all some form of model railroader. This is an issue of concern at the national level where groups have splintered from the NMRA for feeling like they don't belong, and there is a concerted effort to try to make them feel more welcome as part of a general membership focus. But what is at the heart of this tension? I think it comes down to the differences in the way people pursue the hobby.

One way to categorize these pursuits is into two basic groups I think of as those who are *modeling to escape* and those who are *modeling to engage*. Both are equally important and relevant to having fun, and I, like most, enjoy and deliberately practice varying levels of both methods in my modeling time.

Modeling to escape and *modeling to engage* are both recreational by definition as the activities are generally different than those one pursues in everyday life. But both kinds of pursuits of modeling are similar. They are both closely linked forms of nostalgia.

I believe most use the term nostalgia to mean a 'general interest in the past', but there are different connotations associated with nostalgia (wikipedia). The first type, which aligns with *modeling to escape,* includes an element of sentimental longing for a better history that did not actually exist.

Modeling to escape is about removal of things that remind, or are too similar to undesirable everyday conditions - especially those things which one finds disturbing, taxing or unpleasant. One refreshes or re-creates oneself through removal (or distancing) oneself from the everyday.

I completely sympathize with, accept and applaud those who do not wish to model things they find disturbing, taxing or unpleasant in the pursuit of re-creating oneself. It is simply unproductive recreation for them to do so.

This *restorative* practice is meant to do exactly what recreation is all about: feeling better. This is accomplished by fulfilling the wish to return to what one believes was a better time. Of course, there is nothing wrong with feeling better about yourself and your world. It does not, however, allow you to accurately *understand* the world any more than you already do.

If your interests are in understanding, then one must practice the second form, *reflective* nostalgia, which suggests a more active and critical participation with history that leads to a more accurate reflection of how things really were rather than how we desire them to have been. This form aligns with what I call *modeling to engage.*

Modeling to engage is about trying to get as close to the truth and to reality as possible in order to feel what the time and place were actually like. Even though it is not about feeling good about the past, it is still about feeling *connected* to it. It is, however, equally re-creative, and is not a lessor nor a higher form of the hobby. It is simply a different form of enjoyment. It does not negate nor threaten *modeling to escape*, and, in fact, *modeling to engage* may be a subset of *escape* or a more particular form of it.

Some resist *modeling to engage* and believe that deliberate research, planning and 'rivet-counting' is a waste of time and not fun, but very deliberate and rigorous pursuits are equally re-creative such as sport, art, music, etc. The 'buzz' enjoyed from *modeling to engage* comes from the accomplishment of gaining knowledge and the skill to communicate that knowledge through models, which connects us empathetically to our subject of interest. The more rigor put into it, the more buzz one gets in return. The rigor involved in the engagement of learning about a subject requires effort that many may find 'too much like work', while others find it very satisfying exactly because of the rigor.

I tend to like prototypical model railroad operation and accurate, scratchbuilt prototypical modeling, but I also very much enjoy "just running trains", putting together a manufactured kit, or buying something just because I like it.

In my view, there is room enough for escape and engagement, and we should support each other in whatever way helps us to enjoy the hobby on our own terms. Making a fellow model railroader feel bad about their kind of pursuit and disenfranchised from the hobby is simply the wrong thing to do.

Riley

rileytriggs@gmail.com

Go first class.

Lone Star Regional Convention

June 4-8, 2014

Wingate Hotel and Convention Center

Round Rock, Texas

http://bluebonnetlimited.com/

Up The Tracks

By Bill Dryden NMRA & LSR Life Member

Here are upcoming events within the LSR of which I am aware. I will provide all the information YOU send me, or I can glean from other publications, websites, etc., for these events. Additional information may be available through the NMRA *Scale Rails* and/or various trade magazines or various websites. Also, note that all show times and dates are at the discretion of the sponsoring organization and are subject to change. Please forward any and all information about upcoming events or activities in your area, club, etc., to me via e-mail at bdr149@airmail.net. Column submission deadlines are the 15th of January, April, July and October; publication of the *Marker Lamp* is the middle of the following month.

Lone Star Region 63nd Annual Convention (2014)
The Lone Star Region NMRA 63rd Annual Convention will be held in Round Rock, June 4–June 8, 2014. Check the LSR website http://www.lonestarregion.com/convention.shtml Come all!! PARTICIPATE!!!

RECURRING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

LSR Division 3 - Northeast Texas Division - Garland
South Branch of the Library located at 4845 Broadway Blvd. in Garland, TX. Third Saturday of each month. Occasionally the day or branch changes due to scheduling conflicts so pay close attention to the e-mail meeting notices that go out a week before the meeting. For more information contact Jerry Hoverson at jhoverson@tx.rr.com or check the Division 3 Page on the LSR website

Alamo Model Railroad Engineers - San Antonio
The Alamo Model Railroad Engineers meets the 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Zucht Building at the Texas Transportation Museum, 11791 Wetmore Rd., San Antonio TX. For more information call Peter Shavney (210) 317-3661 or Gene Turner (210) 355-2777; or visit the web site www.alamomodelrailroadengineers.com.

Houston Area Live Steamers -Houston
HALS has over 9,000 feet of track for you to enjoy and ride on most any Saturday of the year. Someone is usually there every Saturday with special run, operations, waybills/timetable, work and fun run days scheduled throughout the year. Our public run days are the third Saturday of the month March through November. Come see our 2,500 foot expansion in Phase 4. Model Railroaders (any scale) are welcome to attend most any time. Check our web site out at www.hals.org for schedule of events or e-mail Peter Bryan at peterb@pdq.net for more information.

North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs - Irving
The North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs (NTC) meets the third Tuesday of the month. Visit the website www.dfwtrainshows.com for more information about the NTC, its meeting site or member clubs.

New Braunfels Railroad Museum
Kids Fun Day is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. New Braunfels Railroad Museum, 302 South San Antonio Street, in the 1907 Restored Railroad Depot; New Braunfels, TX. Museum phone (830) 627-2447. Kids of all ages will have the opportunity to run model trains and become a Jr. Engineer. Also among the displays at the Kids Fun Day will be a large US Army Model Garden (G) Scale and Lego Trains. Visit our Steam Engine, Caboose, Dining Car (available for Birthday Parties) and Box Car. There will be other fun, train related activities, additional model trains, train artifacts, our 1907 depot are on display. The Railroad Museum opens at 10:00 am on Saturdays. For field trip scheduling and more information, call Howard Young (210) 542-6121, or visit us at www.nbrrm.org.

EVENTS AND SHOWS

November

16th – 17th 5th Annual Fall Train Show. Sat. 10 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults $7 (18 – up), Children $2 (5 - 17). New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 S. Castell Ave., New Braunfels, TX. For additional information, please call Howard Young at (210) 542-6121.

January 2014

5th – 6th World's Greatest Hobby Train Show; Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Adults: 2 Day registration $12, Saturday only $11, Sunday only $10, Kids under 16: FREE! (must be accompanied by a parent); Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3401 W. Lancaster Avenue, Fort Worth, TX. For more information: http://www.wghshow.com/schedule.html.

18th – 19th 29th Annual Dallas Area Train Show; Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sun. 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m.; Adults $8, Children 12 and under Free; Plano Centre; 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway; Plano, TX. For more information: www.dfwtrainshows.com; for dealer information: chris@railroadmodelers.com.

Former Zephyr cars on their way to Austin!

Reported by George Zapalac

Three streamlined passenger cars from the Burlington's Texas Zephyr have been purchased by William Osborn of Austin and are being moved from South Dakota. They will be placed on his property at 9300 US 290 West next to the relocated San Saba depot, where they will be restored and rented for office space.

The observation car was the first to be moved. The pictures shows the 1961 appearance, with a red neon tail sign which will be restored. The second photo is how the car looked when new, when it served the Denver Zephyr between Chicago and Denver. In 1957 it was reassigned to the Texas Zephyr, overnight between Denver and Dallas, which happens to be one of the trains I operate on my layout. Shown at left is the cover of the cocktail menu from 1943 and an interior view on the following page.

Here's a short video of the observation car being trucked down the highway in South Dakota: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M3QCArLYDps

or click on the image below.

TEAM TRAC
NO.17

The Times They are a Changing

Text and images by Jeff Palmer

As Bob Dylan once wrote and sang, "the times they are a changing". Social media, smart phones and the tablets are the way of the future, and we need to adapt. To address this change, the LSR has a development website - www.geekwithtrains.com. The new website has many new features that allows it to be "responsive and adaptive"; "responsive and adaptive" means the website display will adjust itself to the device being used to it. For the LSR website to be viewed on your smart phone or tablet, as well as your computer, changes had to be made.

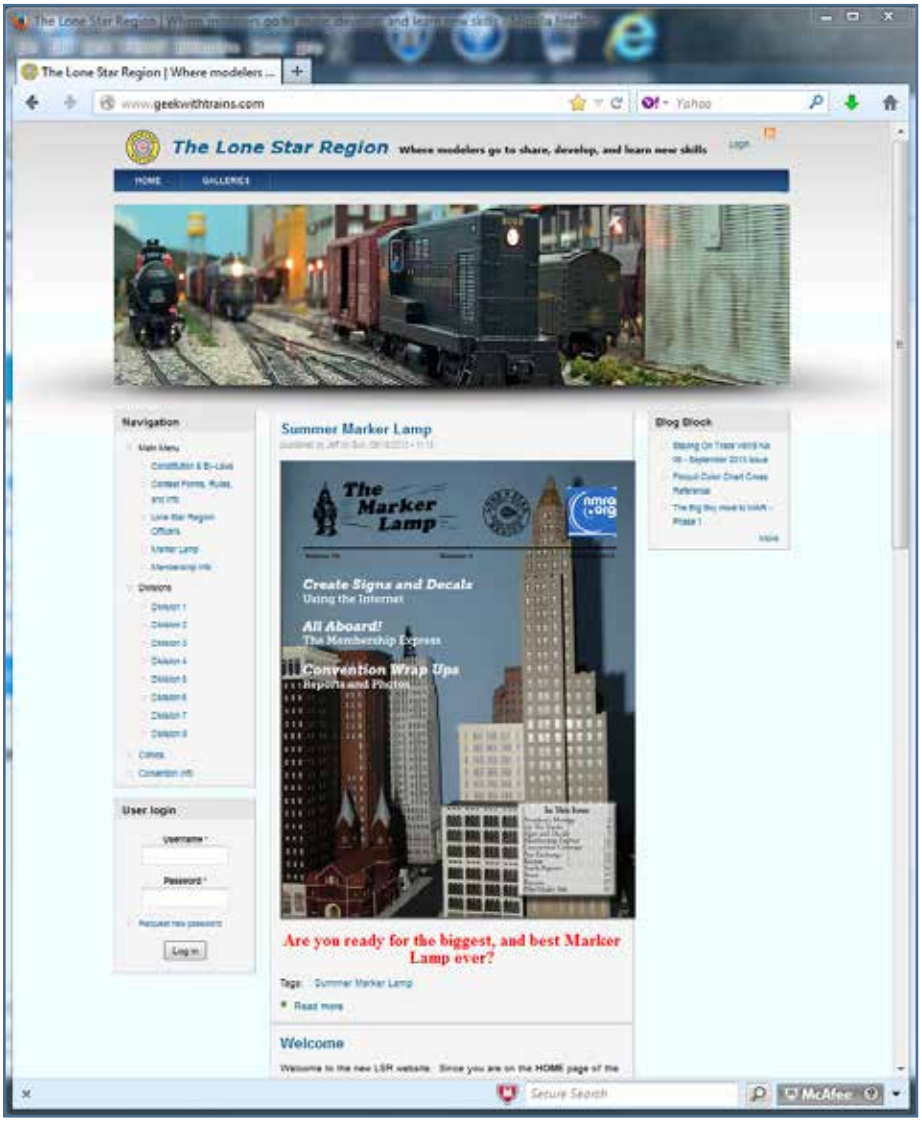


Fig.1 Home page

From a poll of various LSR members at our last convention, the features stated most often were:

1) Viewable on smart phones and tablets
2) More Pictures and video
3) A blog

Using the 2013 LSR convention (www.lonestarexpress2013.com) website as a model, one of the websites features most complained about features was having the navigation menu on the right side. The second most noted website issue was how to logon. On the current LSR website, there is no need to logon, as the site is strictly informational, and this website can also be used in this manner. If you want to contribute to the website, blog, logging on to your account is required.

One of the biggest problems with interactive websites is the fact that they are interactive. In other words, people can contribute information, good or bad. When I originally opened up the development website, within 24 hours the blog had entries from various vitamin and male enhancement organizations. Within 48

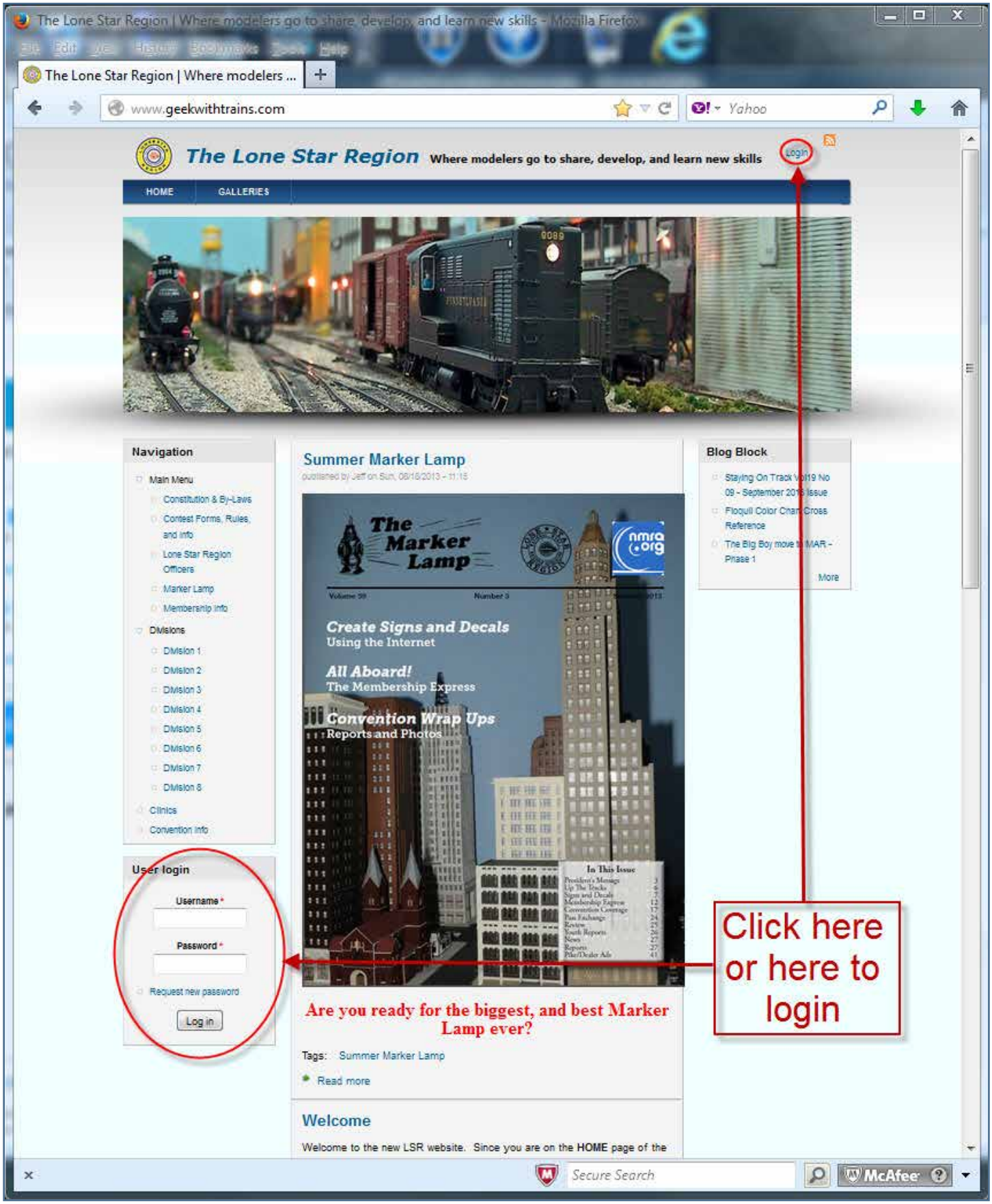


Fig. 2 Logging in

hours, there were solicitations for dates and invitations to visit other websites of questionable material. This was not the results I was looking for, and by the time I returned to the site, about a week later, there were hundreds of these entries, therefore only authorized users are allowed to make entries into the blog. Members who wish to blog, must have an account, and must log in. The login process starts on the Home Page – see Figure 2:

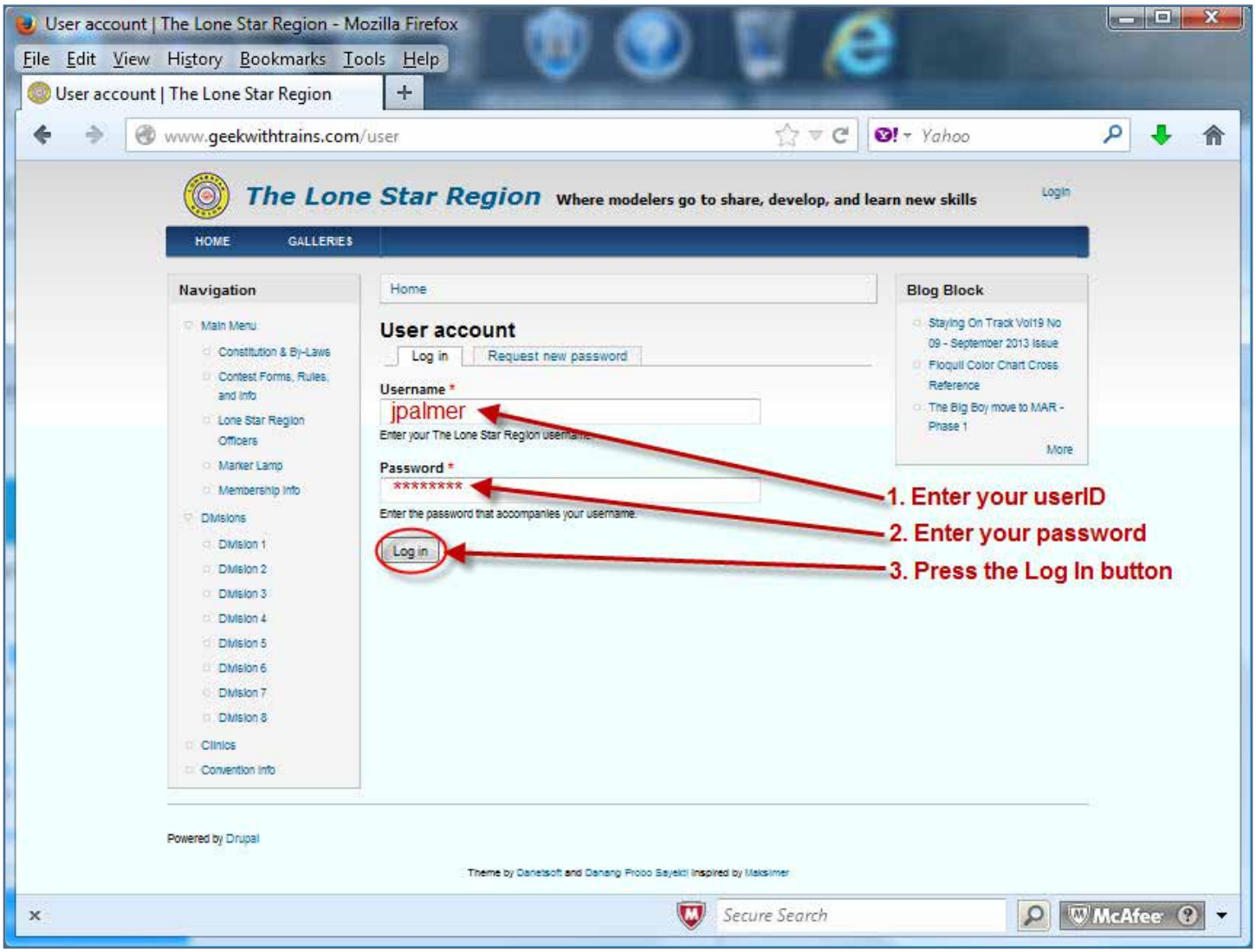


Fig. 3 Logging in

The "User Login" block in the lower left-hand corner of Figure 2, is the typical login block:

1) Enter your user ID
2) Enter your password
3) Click the "Log in" button

The login I would like to focus your attention on is the "Login" at the top of the Home Page. This will take you into a Log in screen shown in Figure 3. Log in as described above.

This will take you into your account information screen (Figure 4). Click the “Edit” Tab.

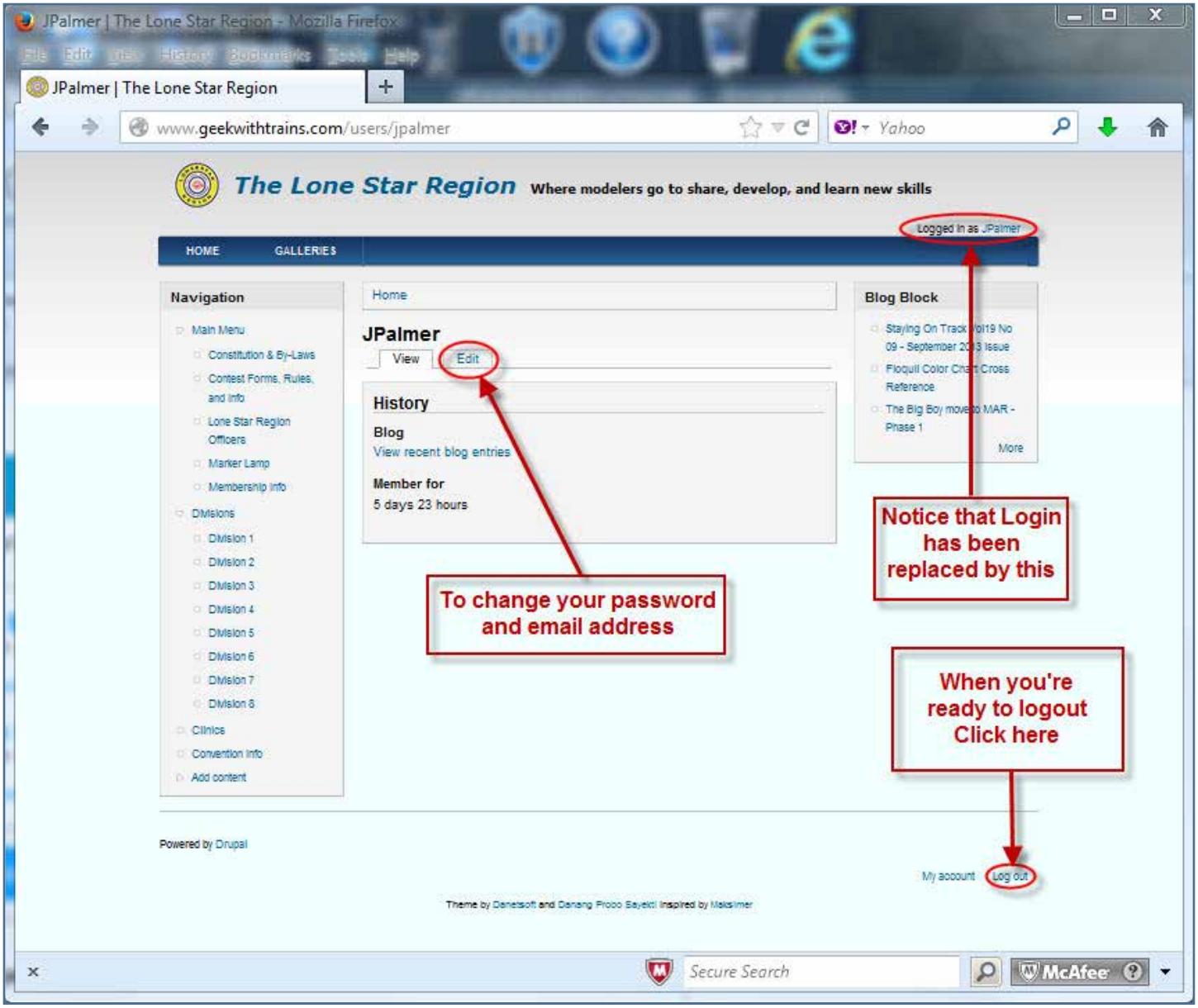
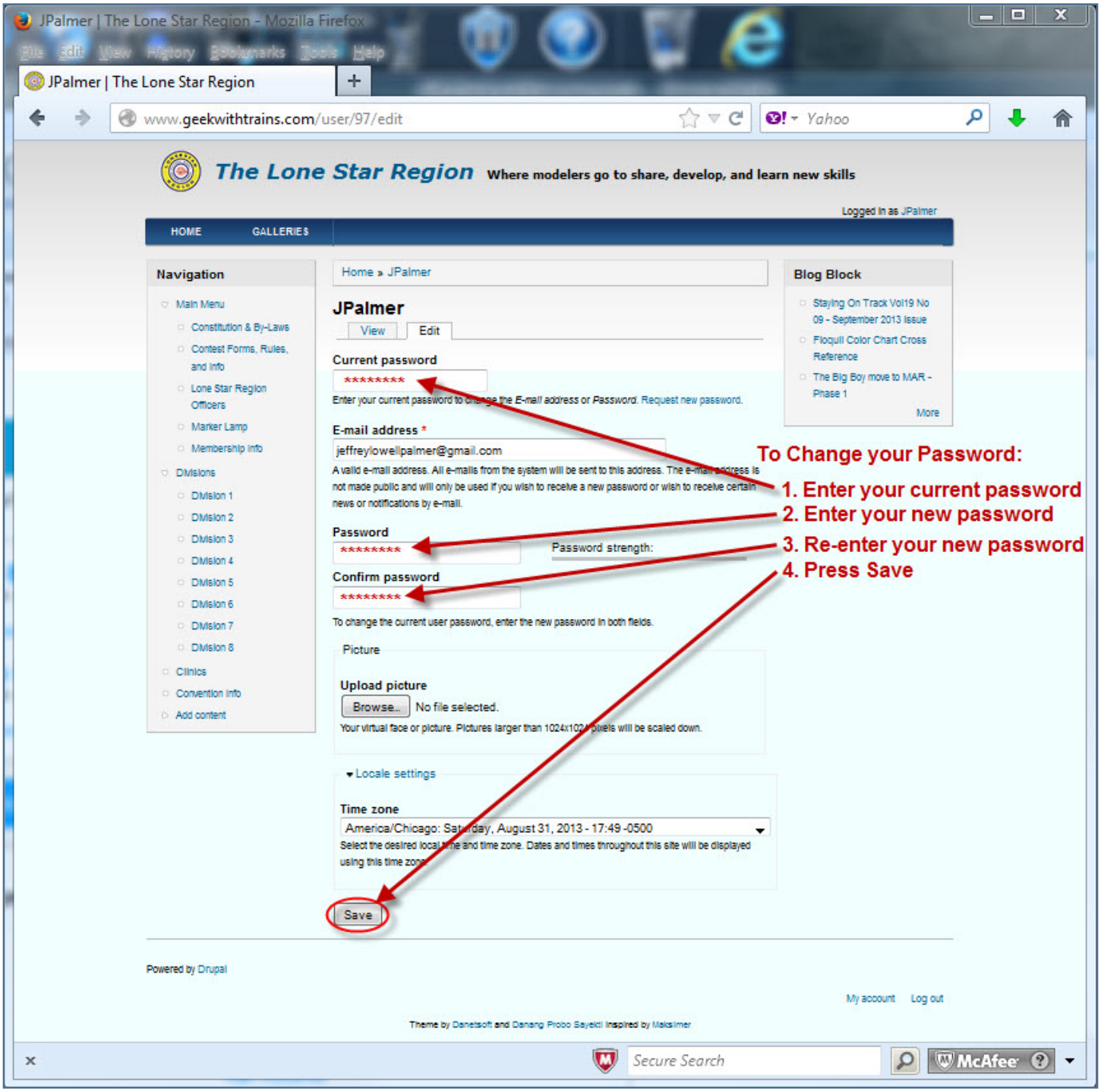


Fig. 4 Account information

This will take you into the screen shown in Figure 5 where you can change your assigned password into a password more to your liking. Once you are logged in, you will remain logged in until you logout, the link is at the bottom of each screen, or until the webchair needs to apply maintenance, at which time, all users will be logged out.


JPalmer | The Lone Star Region - Mozilla Firefox
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www.geekwithtrains.com/user/97/edit
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Where modelers go to share, develop, and learn new skills
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Lone Star Region Officers
Marker Lamp
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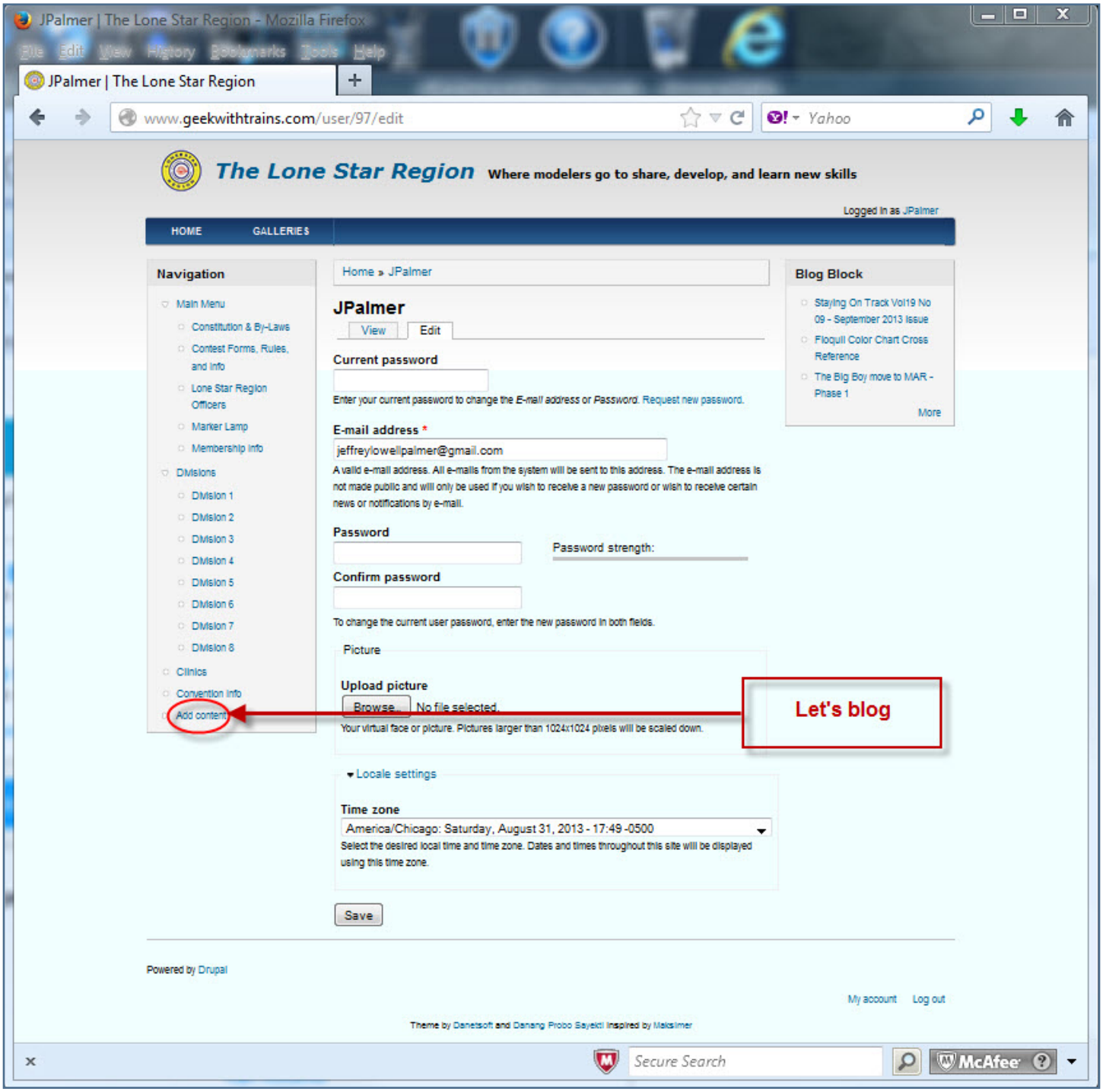
DMsion 2
DMsion 3
DMsion 4
DMsion 5
DMsion 6
DMsion 7
DMsion 8
Clinics
Convention Info
Add content
Home » JPalmer
JPalmer
View
Edit
Current password
Enter your current password to change the E-mail address or Password. Request new password.
E-mail address *
jeffreylowellpalmer@gmail.com
A valid e-mail address. All e-mails from the system will be sent to this address. The e-mail address is not made public and will only be used if you wish to receive a new password or wish to receive certain news or notifications by e-mail.
Password
Password strength:
Confirm password
To change the current user password, enter the new password in both fields.
Picture
Upload picture
Browse...
No file selected.
Your virtual face or picture. Pictures larger than 1024x1024 pixels will be scaled down.
Locale settings
Time zone
America/Chicago: Saturday, August 31, 2013 - 17:49 -0500
Select the desired local time and time zone. Dates and times throughout this site will be displayed using this time zone.
Save
Blog Block
Staying On Track Vol19 No 09 - September 2013 Issue
Floquil Color Chart Cross Reference
The Big Boy move to MAR - Phase 1
More
To Change your Password:
1. Enter your current password
2. Enter your new password
3. Re-enter your new password
4. Press Save
Powered by Drupal
My account
Log out
Secure Search
McAfee
Fig. 5 Password change

Now that you're an authorized and authenticated user, let's turn our attention to BLOGging. Start by selecting the "Add Content" link at the bottom of the Navigation menu (Figure 6).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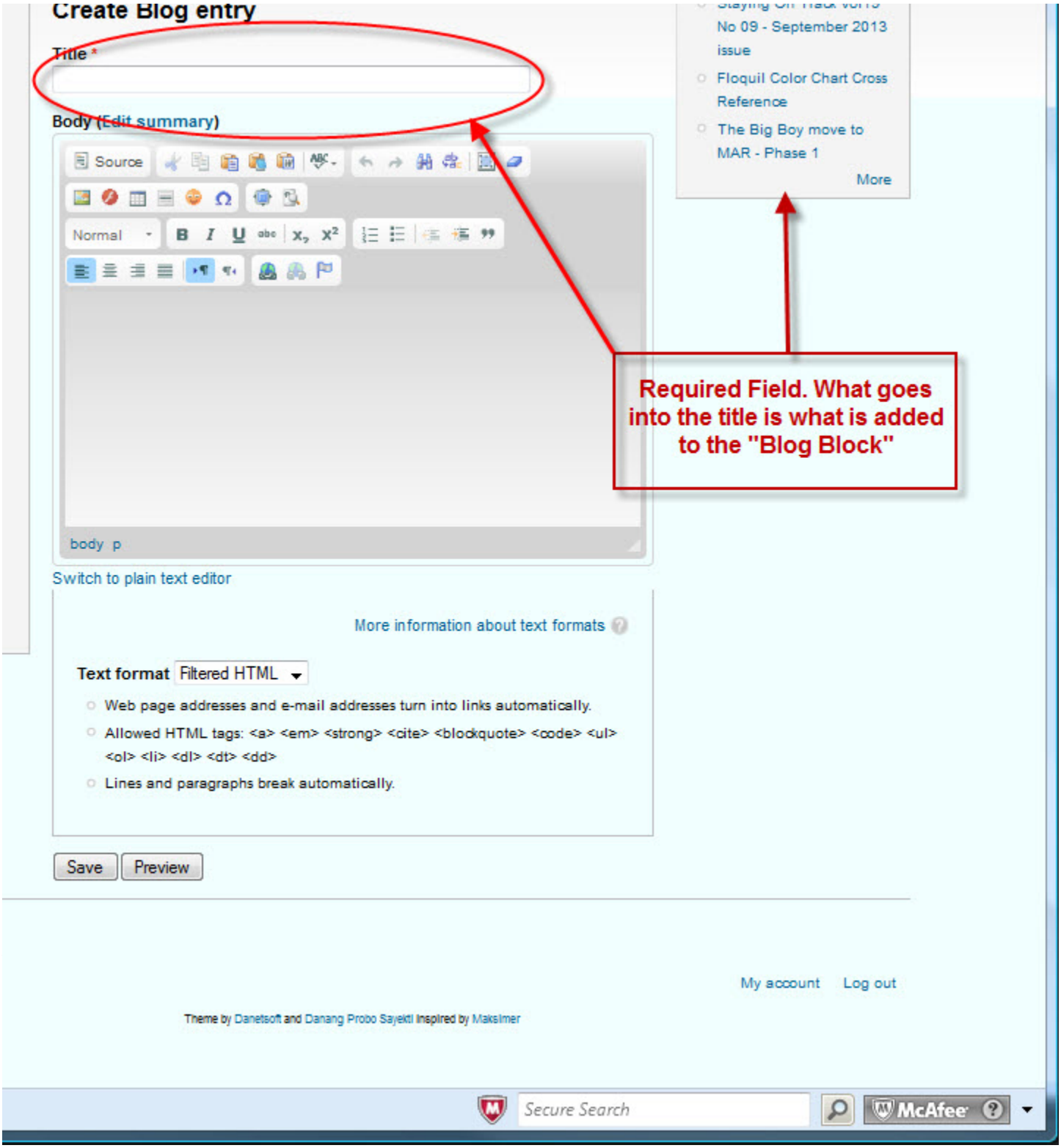
E-mail address *
jeffreylowellpalmer@gmail.com
A valid e-mail address. All e-mails from the system will be sent to this address. The e-mail address is not made public and will only be used if you wish to receive a new password or wish to receive certain news or notifications by e-mail.
Password
Password strength:
Confirm password
To change the current user password, enter the new password in both fields.
Picture
Upload picture
Browse...
No file selected.
Your virtual face or picture. Pictures larger than 1024x1024 pixels will be scaled down.
Let's blog
Locale settings
Time zone
America/Chicago: Saturday, August 31, 2013 - 17:49 -0500
Select the desired local time and time zone. Dates and times throughout this site will be displayed using this time zone.
Save
Blog Block
Staying On Track Vol19 No 09 - September 2013 Issue
Floquil Color Chart Cross Reference
The Big Boy move to MAR - Phase 1
More
Powered by Drupal
My account
Log out
Theme by Danetsoft and Danang Probo Sayekti inspired by Maksimer
Secure Search
McAfee

Fig. 6 Let's blog!

Selecting the "Add content" will bring up the following screens (Figures 7 and 8). The LSR blog is for LSR, NMRA and model railroading related information. This is NOT a personal blog. Use of the blog can be revoked at anytime, for any reason without notification. Reinstatement will require an email from your Division chair to the LSR President and receiving their approval.

Use the BLOG to communicate about meetings, share information, ask questions, and generally communicate about model railroading. Is there a railroading, prototype or model, event taking place in your area, share it.


Create Blog entry
Title *
Body (Edit summary)
Source
Normal
body p
Switch to plain text editor
More information about text formats
Text format Filtered HTML
Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.
Allowed HTML tags: <a>   <cite> <blockquote> <code>   <dl> <dt> <dd>
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The Big Boy move to MAR - Phase 1
More
Required Field. What goes into the title is what is added to the "Blog Block"
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Theme by Danetsoft and Danang Probo Sayekti inspired by Maksimer
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McAfee

Fig. 7 Create a blog entry

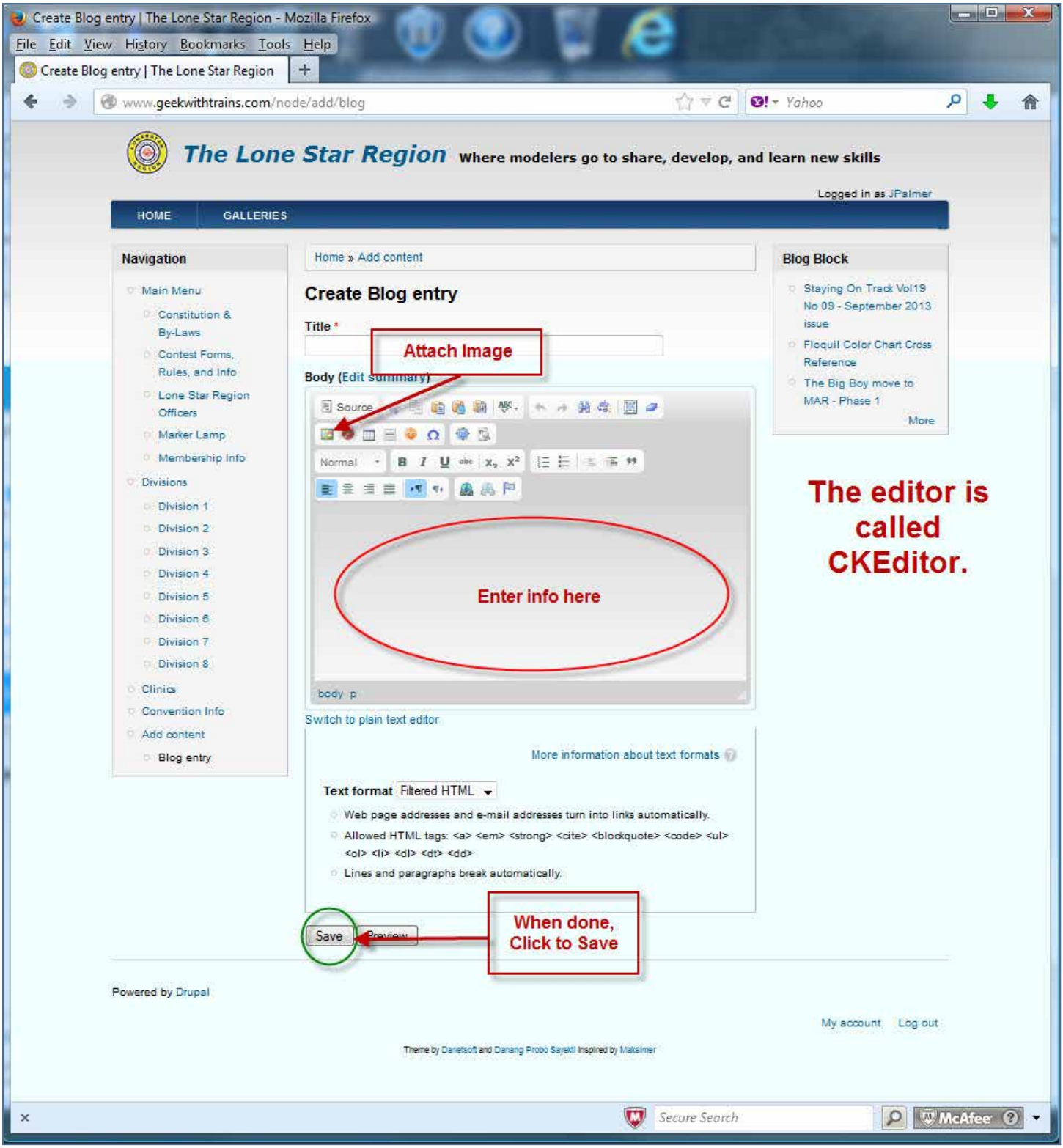


Fig. 8 Blog entry editing

Bloggers like to know when new information is posted. The facility for accomplishing this is called RSS (Rich Site Summary). The LSR is a RSS feeder and can feed anyone who subscribes and provides their RSS reader information.

Most Windows users will use the Microsoft Office Outlook reader, as I did in the example. For those of you who are not using Outlook, you can try the following websites to find RSS readers:

AOL users - http://reader.aol.com/

Top RSS readers - http://email.about.com/od/rssreaderswin/tp/top_rss_windows.htm

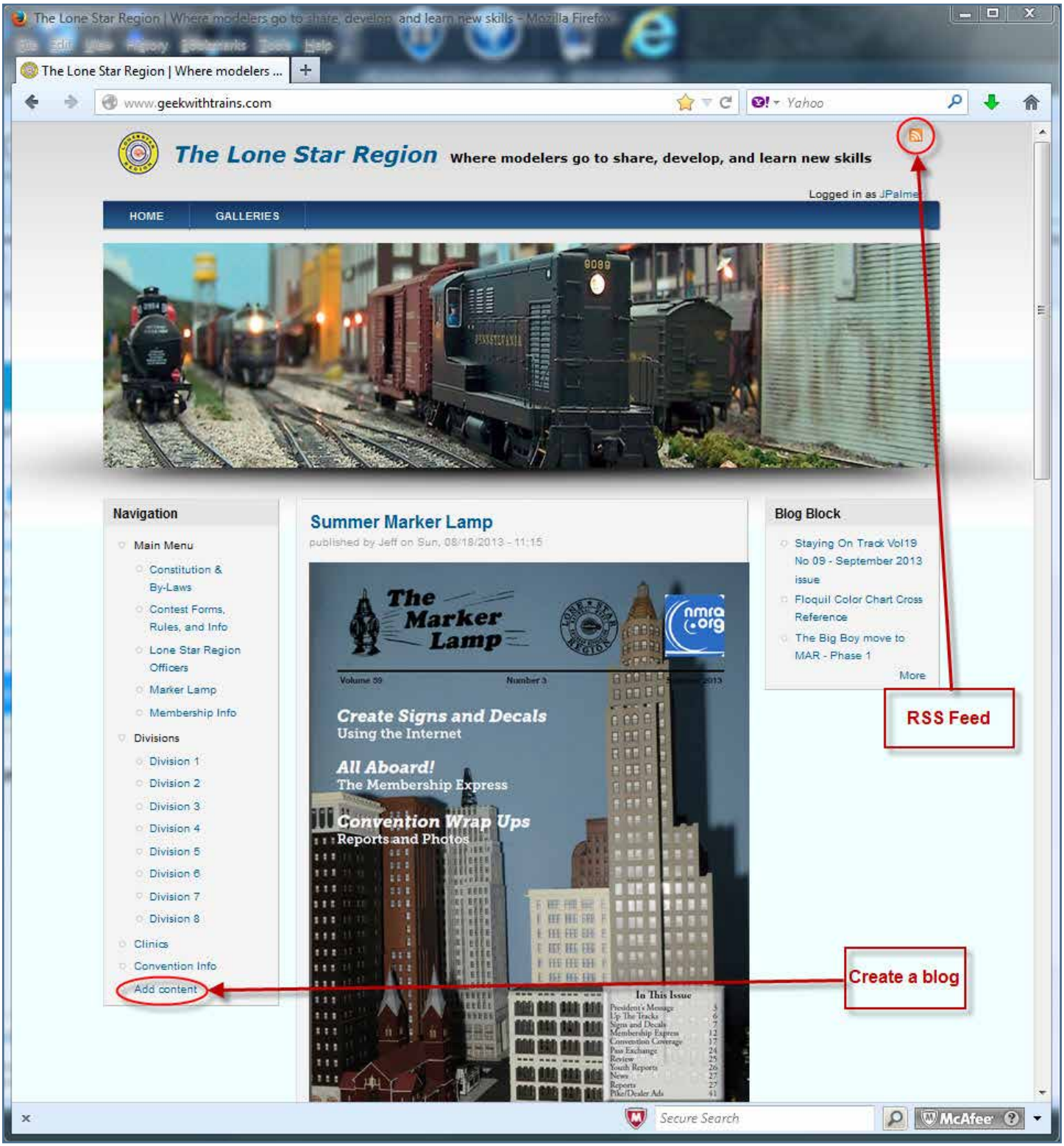


Fig. 9 RSS feed

I hope this article gets you to the development website. Look around. Look at the information being presented. If you find something incorrect, notify me and I'll make the correction. Please enjoy the website. More tutorial information will be coming.

If you do not have a log in account yet, contact your Division chair and have them email me your First name, Last Name, and email address.

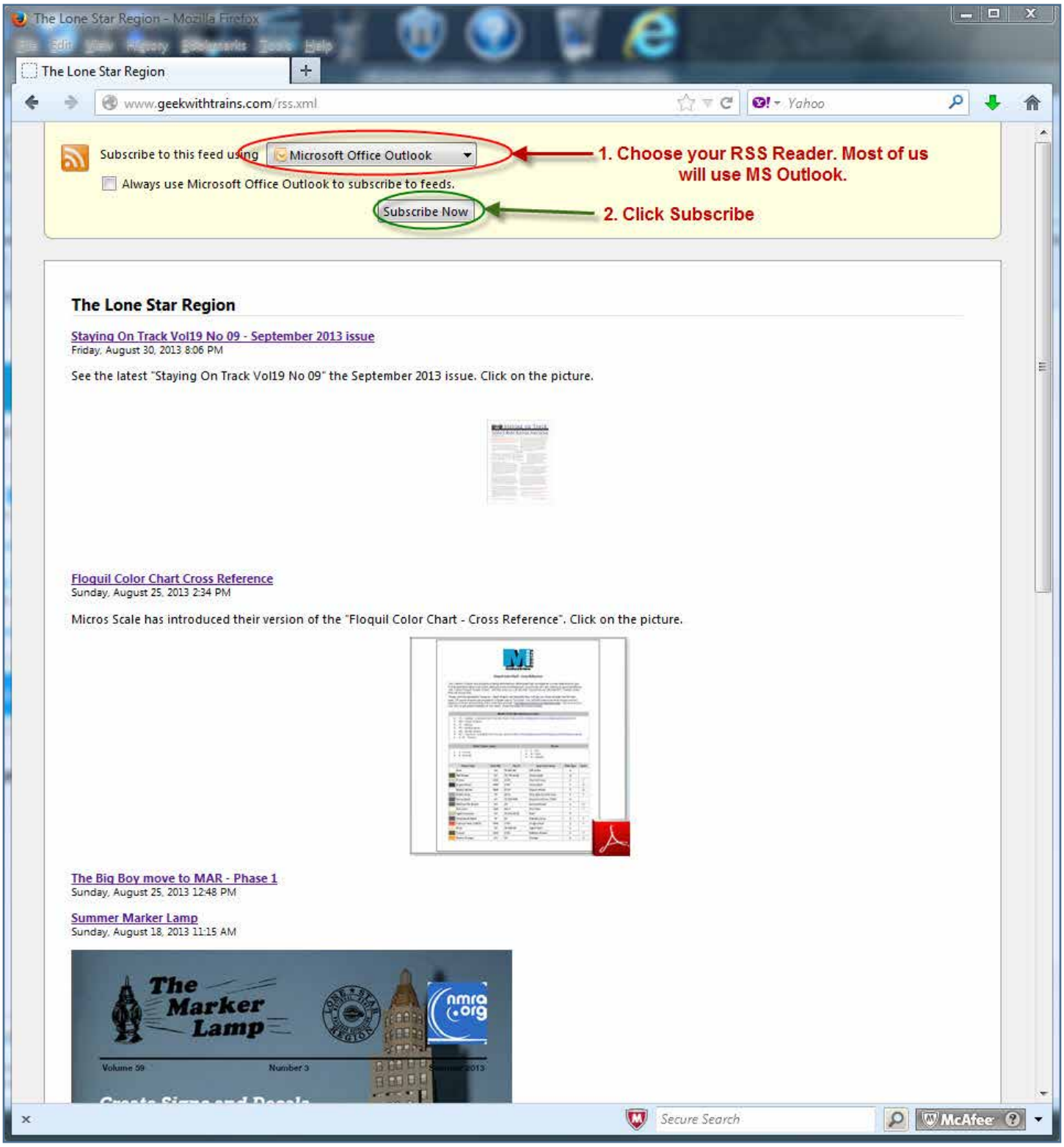
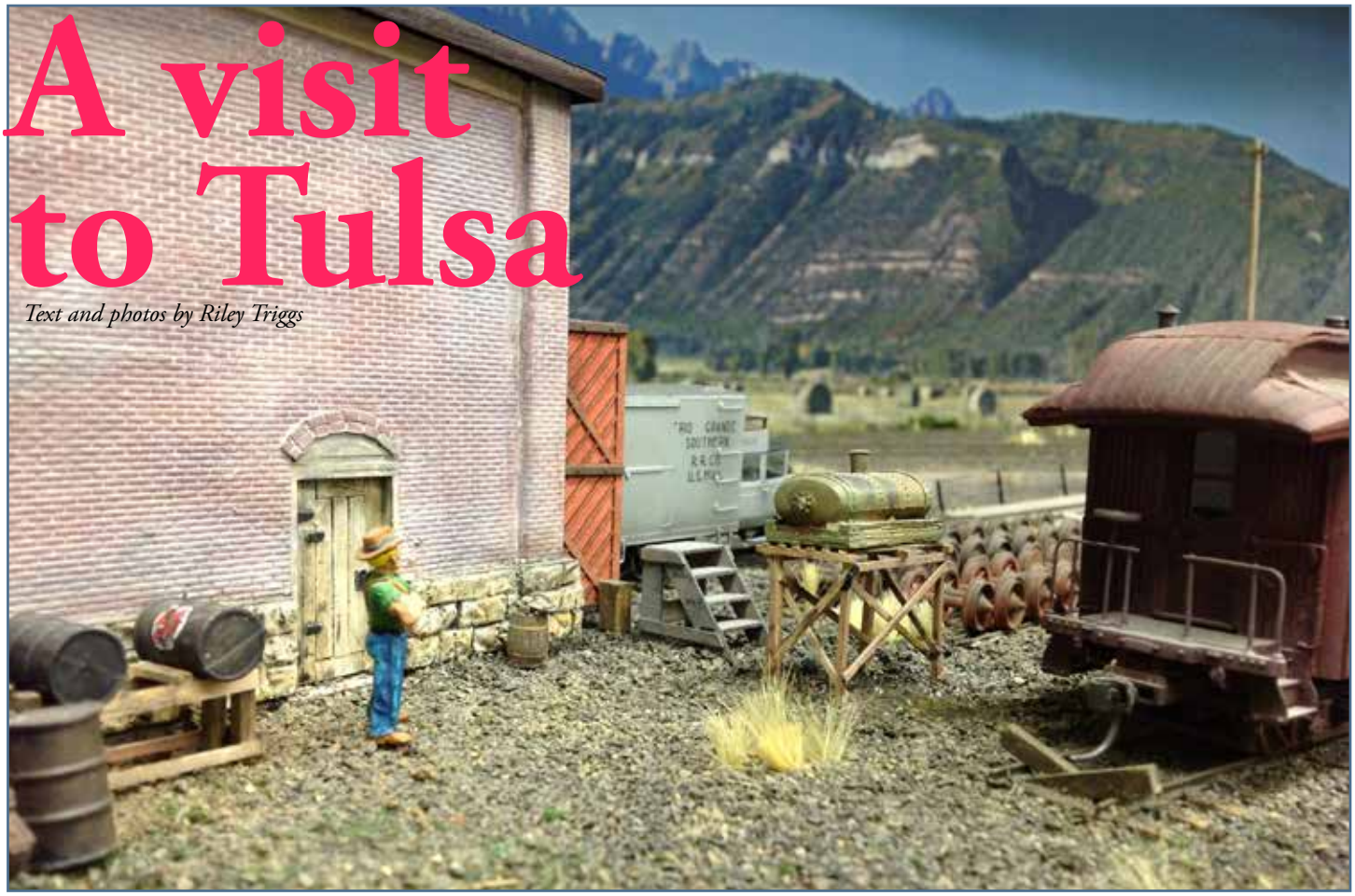

The Lone Star Region - Mozilla Firefox
The Lone Star Region
www.geekwithtrains.com/rss.xml
Yahoo
Subscribe to this feed using
Microsoft Office Outlook
1. Choose your RSS Reader. Most of us will use MS Outlook.
Always use Microsoft Office Outlook to subscribe to feeds.
Subscribe Now
2. Click Subscribe
The Lone Star Region
Staying On Track Vol19 No 09 - September 2013 issue
Friday, August 30, 2013 8:06 PM
See the latest "Staying On Track Vol19 No 09" the September 2013 issue. Click on the picture.
Floquil Color Chart Cross Reference
Sunday, August 25, 2013 2:34 PM
Micros Scale has introduced their version of the "Floquil Color Chart - Cross Reference". Click on the picture.
The Big Boy move to MAR - Phase 1
Sunday, August 25, 2013 12:48 PM
Summer Marker Lamp
Sunday, August 18, 2013 11:15 AM
The Marker Lamp
Volume 59
Number 3
Secure Search
McAfee

Fig. 10 RSS subscription

A visit to Tulsa

Text and photos by Riley Triggs



MMR Ken Ehlers' Sn3 Pandora & San Miguel. Ken is a former member of the Lone Star Region.

Earlier this year, I attended the Tulsa NMRA Indian Nations LDSIG/OpSIG weekend in Tulsa, OK. This was my third trip to the Tulsa weekend, and it was just as enjoyable as the first two. The clinics always cover a wide range of topics centered around designing and operating. The lineup was:

- Mike Porter: A Dog's Breakfast of Layout Construction Information
- Robert Bornfleth: Designing, Building and Operating a layout based on a the prototype
- Barry Karlberg: Shortlines Then and Now, and How You Can Model Them
- Steve Newton and Marc Montray: You Don't Need a Basement for Layout Operations
- Jim Senese: Changes and Evolution of my Kansas City Terminal Railway

In addition to the clinics, three sets of operating sessions on local layouts are scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Thinking outside the box with a fold-up N scale layout for easy transportation. Made by Steve Newton and Mike Montray, the layout features aircraft quality industrial design and construction.

Steve Newton and Marc Montray's clinic: You Don't Need a Basement for Layout Operations was a big hit with a physical demonstration. They displayed and explained the construction of a portable layout in N cscale. A Really nifty rotating table top allows the layout to fold up into a box for transport. The layout is 6'-8" x 6'-0", but when folded, measures 28" to allow for movement through doorways. It has a 150lb dry weight built on 1" over hollow core doors.

The electrical guts travel in a converted rolling tool box. Only a couple of wires are need to bring the layout alive in just a couple of minutes. The trains are also stored here for transporting.

There's a city side and a country side. This is the city side with industries and a stub end classification yard. Lots of action is possible in not a lot of space.

Manifest freight No. 30 makes it way out of Monett staging yard on the big club layout Claremore & Southern. The C&S is based on the Cherokee Subdivision of the Frisco Railroad. It models the line between Monett, MO and Oklahoma City, OK. The major yard is Osage yard, which is patterned after Frisco's Cherokee Yard in Tulsa, OK.

Tom Pearson (center) takes a peak over to Claremore Yard to see how long he and his way freight will be waiting in the hole on the Claremore & Southern.

My first session was Friday night after driving all day from Austin. Tom Pearson and I pulled up a few minutes late at the Claremore & Southern, a large club layout where I conducted trains 600, a unit coal train, and 30 and 34 mixed manifest freights. Set in the summer of 1950, the layout uses phones for communication and CTC dispatching in a 35' x 60' pole barn. Operations were low-key, but high volume.

The main yard is Osage, and a second yard is located in Claremore, OK where the C&S interchanges traffic with the Missouri Pacific (known as the MOP to C&S crews). One of the unique things about the C&S is that it models two separate railroads. The primary railroad is the dispatcher controlled C&S. The secondary railroad (but not a branch line) is the Missouri Pacific

MMR Ken Ehlers' Sn3 Pandora & San Miguel.

From the TulsaNMRA.org web site:
The Pandora & San Miguel depicts the southwest Colorado Rio Grande Southern in September, 1942 and includes that part of the railroad from Ridgway to Rico. The main line is 200 feet with interchange with the D&RGW at Ridgway and staging at both ends of the layout. Operation is easy paced but busy – lots of switching. Helper locos are required on most freights. Layout is about 90 percent sceniced. Locos all have Tsunami sound and run at scale speeds.

(MOP) which is operated as a "dark" railroad. The MOP runs independently of the C&S and operates between Coffeyville, KS and Ft. Smith, AR with several industrial customers in the towns of Muskogee, OK, Oolagah, OK and Coffeyville, KS as well as engine facilities at its Coffeyville division point. The MOP and the C&S interchange traffic at Claremore.

On Saturday we were lucky enough to operate

Town of Ridgeway on Ken Ehlers' Sn3 Pandora & San Miguel.

at former LSR member Ken Ehlers' Sn3 Pandora & San Miguel -truly exquisite layout of the Colorado and Rio Grande Southern. I operated the Ridgeway yard (pictured above) and also ran a passenger train and freight up to Rico (pictured below). The yard had a couple of tricky moves in and out of the coal bin and in dealing with some off-spot cars, but as soon as I realized what was going on, I was able to create my train for a run around the layout and up to Rico.

To wrap up the weekend, Tom and I made

Town of Rico on Ken Ehlers' Sn3 Pandora & San Miguel.

I pause to take a photo while Tom (right) makes a drop at the refrigerator tracks. The Frisco crew is engrossed on the other side of the Bottoms.

our way to Jim Senese's Kansas City Terminal Railroad. We operated as the KCS crew. So far over the three trips, we have been the Santa Fe (since replaced by the Katy on the current version), Frisco and KCS. Jim assigns crews personae to play while operating. If I remember correctly, the Frisco crew is to be played as the most ornery when it comes to the interactions with the other railroads, while the Santa Fe had the most professional and agreeable work ethics.

From the TulsaNMRA web site:

> *Jim's KCT represents 4 1/2 miles of railroads in the West and East Bottoms of Kansas City, and industry names and locations are prototypically accurate. Operation is by handwritten switch lists – as it was in 1980. The railroad is 660 square feet in size and consumes a couple of rooms on the second floor of the family house. A third room is the crew lounge and railroad library.*
>
> *It's 3:00 pm on Saturday, November 15, 1980 – the last weekend before the Frisco was absorbed into the Burlington Northern. The eight model railroaders who come to operate the KCT are divided into four two-person crews. One crew will be hired by the M-K-T, one by the Frisco, one by the Kansas City Southern, and one by the Missouri Pacific. During the 3.5 hour operating session each crew will switch industries along their railroad, provide customer service moves at grain elevators, and interchange interline freight cars with the other three trunk lines. As an additional dimension, each crew will be provided with a description of the corporate culture of the railroad they work for and will be asked to adopt that persona during the session.*

Jim's layout is a favorite of mine because of the great mix of operating challenges and the added layer of role playing. I'm going to find a way of incorporating something similar in my own operations.

After Jim's, we made our way back to Austin through a light sprinkling of snow. The crew in Tulsa put on a highly organized and fun weekend attended by some really great people that is well worth the trip across the Red River.

These meets are a good way to learn more about designing layouts as well as getting a chance to operate some great examples. Next year's weekend is March 21-23 http://ldopsigmeet.tulsanmra.org/. There are meets all over the country and all through the year continuously updated at the Operations Special Interest Group web site. http://www.opsig.org/events/events.cgi Try one of these meets, and I bet you get hooked!

Crews converge during a cooperative yard transfer run. Interaction between crews is the best part of the operating session. The personae role playing is a unique twist and enhancement to the understanding of the Kansas City Terminal.

We ran the Kansas City Southern yard. The transfer caboose caused a little head scratching on a couple of moves, but once we figured out the run around procedure, we could concentrate on the task of pulling and putting the cars on our switch list.

Division 3 Achievement Program Award Winners - August

Text and photos by Roy Stockard

At the Division 3 meeting several NMRA members were presented with Awards, both AP and Golden Spike. Below are the photos of those receiving awards at the August meeting presented by Jerry Hoverson MMR.

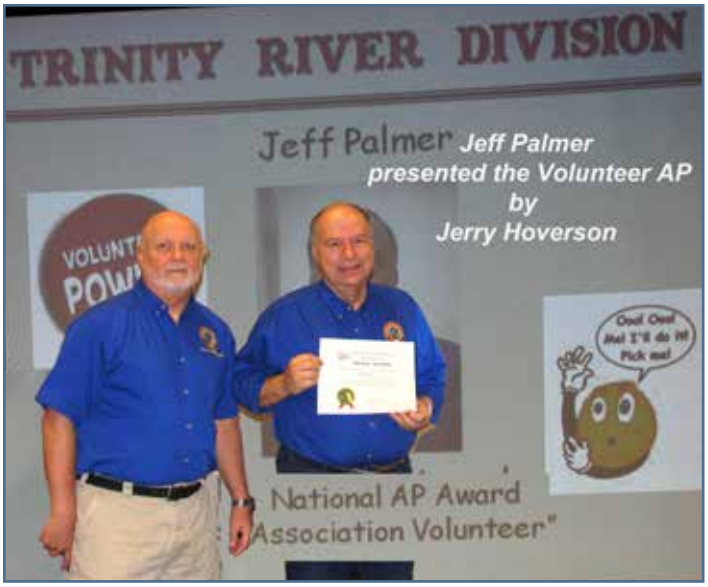
1. **Charlie Kirk** MMR receives his 9th AP --- STRUCTURES. Charlie not pictured but receiving for Charlie is MMR Duane Richardson.
2. **Don Winn** is awarded 1st and 2nd AP VOLUNTEER & CIVIL ENGINEER.
3. **Donna Orr** receives her 1st AP Award VOLUNTEER.
4. **Jeff Palmer** receives his 1st AP Award VOLUNTEER.
5. **Larry Swigert** receives 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th AP Awards for CIVIL ENGINEERING, SCENERY, ELECTRICAL & CARS.
6.**Mike Mackey** receives the AP Award CHIEF DISPATCHER & The GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD.
7. **Tom Browning** MMR received his 9th AP Award SCENERY.

1.

2.

3.

4.



5.

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Division 3 Achievement Program Award Winners - September

Text and photos by Gert Muller aka Speed

At the September Division 3 meeting, once again, several NMRA members were presented with AP Awards, both Regional and National. Below are the photos of those receiving their awards at the meeting.

1. Jeff Palmer received his Regional AP Award for AUTHOR.

2. Roy Stockard received the National AP Award for ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER.

3. MMR Tom Browning received his 9th National AP Award, MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY, presented by Jerry Hoverson.

Mike Mackey was not present to receive his National AP Award, CHIEF DISPATCHER.

Don Winn was not present to be awarded his National AP Award for ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER and MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER – CIVIL, but still received a huge round of applause!

4. Johnathan Ball received his nomination to become the Division 3 Youth Representative, presented by Jerry Hoverson. Notice the Show and Tell encouragement (to super detail that railroad car).

1.

2.

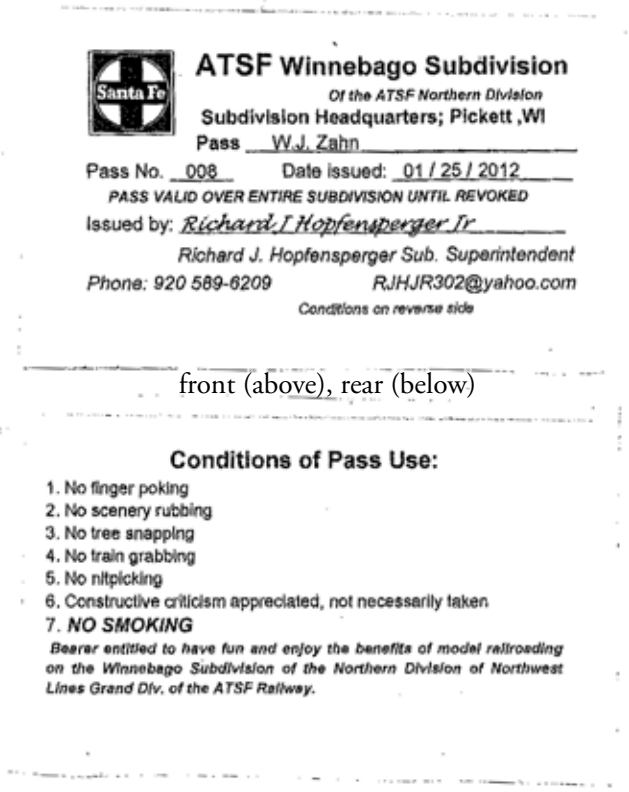
3.

4.

Division 3 Show and Tell

Division 3 has two 'production teams' working day after day to produce an item or progress on an item for almost EVERY division meeting's Show and Tell. Skippy, who will also tell a wonderful before and after story regarding his creation, is showing off his diorama, "Where did my painting go, homestead."

The other team, Cody and K.C., don't really like talking into a microphone, but do like to show how little effort it really could be to build EVERYTHING from scratch, even if you are forced to since you've created your own model railroad scale!



ATSF Winnebago Subdivision

Of the ATSF Northern Division

Subdivision Headquarters; Pickett ,WI

Pass W.J. Zahn

Pass No. 008 Date issued: 01 / 25 / 2012

PASS VALID OVER ENTIRE SUBDIVISION UNTIL REVOKED

Issued by: Richard J Hopfensperger Jr

Richard J. Hopfensperger Sub. Superintendent

Phone: 920 589-6209 *RJHJR302@yahoo.com*

Conditions on reverse side

front (above), rear (below)

Conditions of Pass Use:

1. No finger poking
2. No scenery rubbing
3. No tree snapping
4. No train grabbing
5. No nitpicking
6. Constructive criticism appreciated, not necessarily taken
7. ***NO SMOKING***

Bearer entitled to have fun and enjoy the benefits of model railroading on the Winnebago Subdivision of the Northern Division of Northwest Lines Grand Div. of the ATSF Railway.

This quarter's pass is printed in black on white and is from the *ATSF Winnebago Subdivision* submitted by Richard J. Hopfensperger, 6817 Hollender Ln, Pickett, WI, 54964-9595.

Pass Exchange

Headed by Walter Zahn

The Pass Exchange Program is yet another fun way to connect to other model railroaders through printed ephemera you have created. Railroad passes were distributed by railroads to their employees, associates and partners as well as employees of other railroads for courtesy travel on their system. Many modelers recreate this tradition by printing and distributing passes for their own railways as a way to extend and share their modeling efforts.

Here's how it works

Walter Zahn continues to spearhead the Pass Exchange Program for the LSR. To participate in the program, send Walter two of your passes, and in return you will receive a pass and a list of active pass exchangers. Walter will review the passes he receives and share one in each issue of *ML*.

Send passes and any questions or inquiries to:

Walter Zahn
3309 Point East Drive
Mesquite, Texas 75150-2645

Nominations

By Blake Bogs

First off, I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as the chair of your nominations committee. As chair, I hope to bring in the best volunteers for our organization. We have a great group of volunteers in office right now, but several are ready to move on to new positions. I am asking you to consider running for a position in our organization. This year we have elections for several positions. These positions are Division 2, 4, 6, and 8 directors and all of our directors at large.

Now the question you're probably asking right now is why would I want to volunteer??? That's a great question with a great answer! First, this is a great opportunity to interact and get to know fellow modelers in your community. It allows you to host meetings in your community, judge models for your friends, and play trains all while volunteering for the NMRA.

Who doesn't like having fun playing trains with their friends! Volunteering for our organization is not only a great way to serve in the hobby, it can also lead to other more personal benefits like working toward becoming a Master Model Railroader. Did you know that by volunteering for a position in our organization that you could start receiving volunteer hours for your MMR Volunteer Certificate? And if you run for certain positions, you can receive your MMR Official Certificate.

Volunteering for a position in our organization doesn't require you to model or build a layout. I may be a little biased, but I consider this organization one of the best organizations in which to volunteer. We have some of the nicest, caring individuals who will do anything for you, whether or not it has to do with trains. It just takes a little time and commitment.

So now you're asking… Blake, where do I sign up? Well there are a number of ways to volunteer. First you can go to the Lone Star Region website (you were just on it to access the *Marker Lamp*). Go to the left side of the page and click on the Officers/Departments tab. At the top of the page it has a link that says Interested in running for office...click here. Just click that tab, print the page, and fill it out. Then mail it to:

Blake Bogs
Attention: NMRA Nominations Committee
8202 Pine Thistle Ln.
Spring, TX 77379

Your second option is to email me at superchief15@yahoo.com and tell me you are interested. I will make sure we get you the right paperwork and make sure you are on the ballot in January.

Your third option is to talk to your Region Director or another official in the NMRA. They will help you get in touch with either me or my co-chair, George Bohn. My personal number is 713-254-7447. I'm mostly available in the evenings. I'm attending college during the day, but if I'm not in class, I will be happy to talk to you about this amazing opportunity!

Thanks for taking your time to read this and happy modeling!

Blake Bogs
Nominations Chair

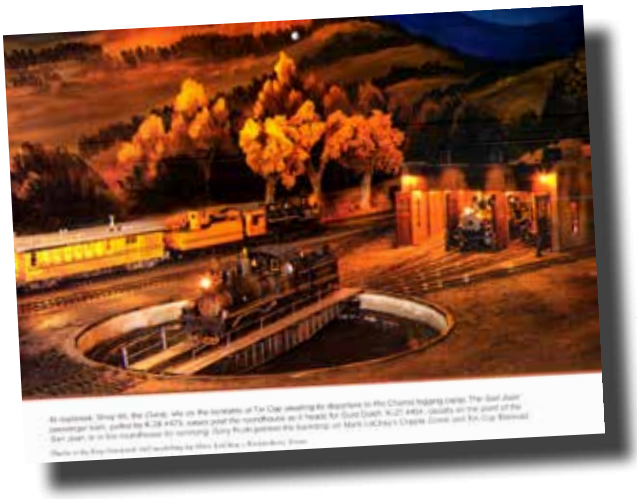
Youth Program Membership

By Bob Mangrum, MMR

The Youth Membership Program is an excellent way for the members of the LSR to bring new and young members into the NMRA and to become involved in what is truly the "world's greatest hobby.

This is the stated objective of the Youth Membership Program as found in Article VI of the LSR bylaws. The program is designed to sponsor up to nine young people with one year memberships in the NMRA. The total number is determined as one nominee for each division and one nominated by the elected officers and directors at large.

These nominees can originate from nominations by individuals who are members of the various divisions, clubs that are located within the divisions, and/or the division director. The proper form and a short sketch explaining why the candidate should be considered, including comments about the young person's interests and activities in model railroading comprise the application. Please refer to the bylaws for more details. If you have questions, please contact me by e-mail at: rmangrum6@hotmail.com Looking forward to announcing nine awardees for 2013!



News

LSR members in NMRA 2014 Calendar and *Model Railroader*

The modeling of **Marc LeChey** and back drop painting of **Gary Rush** are presented by the photography of **Roy Stockard** in the new NMRA 2013 Calendar arriving in your mailboxes soon. The photo for July 2014 is of the turntable and roundhouse on Marc's Cripple Creek and Tin Cup Railroad.

And, on page 44 of the November issue of *Model Railroader*, check out **Dave Lamberts'** article, 12 Classic Weathering Tips. GREAT JOB GUYS!!

Directors' Reports

Cowcatcher Division 1

by Chris Atkins
chris@railroadermodelers.com
214.222.1285
cowcatcherdivision.com

Hi gang,

I hope you are all staying out of the rain and inside working on your layouts.

Since my last report, things have been a little slow in the division. This is partly because the loss of our two wonderful host clubs: **The Texas Western** and **Lockheed-Martin Recreation Association**. I am actively looking for an affordable new location to have our meetings.

I imagine by the time you read this, the November 9-10 Ft. Worth train show either be happening or a thing of the recent past. Please consider attending the event at the Will Rogers Colosseum. This year promises to be the best yet with more vendors than we've every had in Ft. Worth. There will be portable layouts at the show as well as open houses throughout the weekend. More information can be found at http://dfwtrainshows.com Of course, we will have our table set up and always welcome division members to come and spread the word about the NMRA and LSR.

Division 1 member, **Stan Pirzchalski** will once again be hosting an open house at his home in Colleyville on Sunday, Dec. 8th from noon until 5PM to benefit local children through GRACE. Stan's wonderful 67' x 27' home layout

Chris' new layout room!

shouldn't be missed and the cost of admission is merely a small toy like a board game, blocks, Play Dough, Legos, Puzzles, etc. If you are interested in attending, please email me at chris@railroadmodelers.com, and I will get you directions.

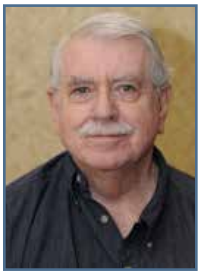
Speaking of home layouts, I took ownership of my layout's new home in the South Denton / Argyle area. Many of you know **Shane Murphy** and had a chance to visit his layout. Shane recently moved to East Texas and was looking for someone to buy his property where he moved the 1895 T&P Roanoke section house in 2000. Since then, he built a nice double decked layout based on the line from Ft. Worth to Denison. Unfortunately, much of the layout wound up in the burn pile before I caught wind of the move. Here is a cell phone snapshot of the switching layout that **Matt Latham** and I built for last summer's convention in the corner of the section house.

We've also been working frantically on this year's DFW Interchange. 19 local layout owners will be hosting about 40 of our town friends for the weekend of Nov 1-3. Every operator will visit 4 layouts over the three days, and the whole group is getting together for a social event at Love and War in Texas Saturday night. Over the next two years, they will reciprocate by hosting us in Houston and Tulsa.

Let me know if you have a great place for us to continue having our meetings at. In the mean time, the guys in Garland have a great event on the 2nd Saturday over every month and I know a lot of you attend their meeting.

Hope to see you all at Stan's in December,

Chris



Bayou Division 2

by Rod Fredericks
fredericks.rod@gmail.com
225-939-0187

With football season in full swing and the Holidays fast approaching, one would think model railroading would take a back seat. I for one however, as I am sure it is for many other model railroaders, have little trouble accommodating all three. Modern technology (a large screen TV and satellite receiver in the train room) takes care of most of the football watching problem. So unless it's and LSU game I can multi-task both. And the holiday season has always been associated with model railroading for me. As a child, many a Christmas I had anxiously awaited the opening of presents to see what new model railroad treasures Santa had brought. And it really hasn't changed much over the years.

The Bayou Division continues to be very active in the Holiday Season as well. At the time of this writing (Oct.), we are actively planning and scheduling activities for Model Railroad Month, which is something new for our Division. There have always been activities during the month of November, but this year we are attempting to coordinate and schedule activities between the various clubs and home layouts so that one event is not walking on another, and actively advertising these events together, as well as listing home layout open houses.

Beyond November (which will already have passed by the time this edition of the *Marker Lamp* in published) the bi-monthly operating sessions continue at the **Mid-South Model Railroad Club** here in Baton Rouge, and operating sessions on **Art Houston's** fine layout in Houma, LA. The Mid-South sessions are held on the first Saturday of each even-numbered month. We have to limit the number to 22 operators (including club members). If you are interested in attending one of these afternoon sessions drop our club's operations chairman, Art Houston, an email (ahouston3@charter.net) to get on the list. For other information about the club and layout, our Website is www.midsouthmodelrrclub.com/.

Also in planning is the Louisiana Rail Run in February. This is an annual event where model railroaders from nearby states are invited to operate on layouts in the southeast Louisiana area.

Additionally, the **Greater Baton Rouge Model Railroad** in Jackson LA www.greaterbrrailroaders.com/. and the **Crescent City Model Railroad Club** in the New Orleans area continues their activities and open houses. The Crescent City Model Railroad Club has been working hard on their layout and conversion to DCC and are at a point where organized operations are again possible. They will be a new addition to the Louisiana Rail Run schedule. They are also actively recruiting new members. Anyone interested in finding out more about this club should visit their web site (http://www.ccmrc.com/).

Upgrades to the **Mid-South** layout continue at a brisk pace. A rework of the power plant area is well underway, adding new operating possibilities. Wiring of the sixth node is essentially complete and the seventh has begun.

So that's all for now. Happy Holidays and Model Railroading.

North East Texas Division 3

by Jerry Hoverson, MMR
jhoverson@tx.rr.com
972.540.5315

Well, the weather has turned cooler (that's a relative term in Texas) at least it's not in the 100's anymore. You know what this means don't you? You will start spending more time indoors and not have so many outings. That means, of course, more railroading time! It's time to put in that extra industrial spur or detail that new locomotive or make that new structure. So start planning!

We're still meeting once a month with our primary time and location being on the 2nd Saturday of the month at South Branch of the Library located at 4845 Broadway Blvd.

in Garland. However, watch the meeting notifications closely, we are at the mercy of the libraries and sometimes have to move to a different branch or a different Saturday.

Since last I wrote we've had some great clinics. We did a couple of multi-part clinics covering two different topics.

The first topic was "photographing your model railroad" presented by **Roy Stockard**. Roy first taught us all about the camera, how it works and the best way to increase the depth of field to get as much in focus as possible. He then brought in a display and all his equipment and we were able to see the affects of lighting in a live demonstration. Members were then able to shoot some pictures of their own to try out what they just learned. We then learned how Helicon software works to stitch a series of shots together and bring all of the subject into focus.

Roy wrapped things up in October with a live demonstration using "Gimp" to modify the sky, clone the scenery to cover the fascia and add smoke and steam to the locomotive to give it life.

Here's the final shot he did, pretty cool huh? Thanks Roy for a great sequence of clinics, judging by the audience participation they were all intrigued.

Adding smoke in the free photo editing software Gimp

The second sequence was on Signals. I started it off with a history/factual lesson on the origin of signals and how they evolved into what we see today. That was followed up in August by **Gert Muller** where he presented a clinic on how to use JMRI to make the signals perform all that automatic magic they do in a completely automated signaling system.

I then wrapped up the series with a how-to clinic on scratch building your own signals at a fraction of the cost of readymade commercially available signals.

In the coming months we'll continue the quest for knowledge, just don't know the topics just yet. Any requests?

We working on a special event for November...but I don't want to let the cat out just yet since things are not totally settled. So stay tuned to your meeting notifications to get the latest.

In December our meeting will be at **Donna Orr & Roger Shank's** house where we'll have a division holiday party and our annual White Elephant gift exchange. This has been a lot of fun in the past and promises to top it this year.

Low-cost signal construction

We also continue to have our normal departments such as "Awards", "Show-n-Tell" and the ever popular "Deal or Dud". If you haven't made the meeting and know what these are all about, you really missed out.

I'd like to take just a moment to recognize two special members that are constant participants in our special departments.

First, **Skippy Bynum**, there hasn't been a meeting in the past year or so that Skippy hasn't brought something in for "Show-n-Tell" and amused us with his tails and exploits while modeling. And to think, he didn't want to get up in front of the group the first time!

Second, **Larry Swigert**, I know I've mentioned him several times in my articles but without his month in and month out efforts to interface with our sponsor and provide the prizes during our Deal or Dud and his tireless effort to push for awards for our members the meeting wouldn't be near as good as it is. Thank you Larry for all the unsung efforts behind the scenes that keep us all going!

So, make plans to attend. Take care all and keep "working on the railroad" but most of all get involved with the division and have some railroading FUN!

Jerry

Cen-Tex Division 4

by Jack Merkel
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CenTexNMRA.org

We had a table at the CentraMod Train Show in Temple on Sept 21 and 22. At our table, we have a poster and several brochures describing the benefits of joining the NMRA. A banner hangs overhead that says "NMRA – Helping you get more out of your hobby". We signed up three new members at the show and several others expressed interest.

Show and tell.

We held a Division meeting on Saturday Sept 28 at the Round Rock Library. **Pete Guy** presented a clinic titled "Why I built my unusual railroad". Pete's approach definitely is an exercise in thinking outside the box on layout design. He has no staging, no scheduled trains, no dispatcher and no scenery. It is a switching railroad based on UP and BN operations in the Portland, OR area and is fun to operate.

We had our show and tell table with several items shown. After the social time, we picked the winners of the gift certificates for Kings Hobby Shop with our Deal or Duds program.

After the meeting, we toured Pete Guy's Conundrum and Pacific RR which is a switching railroad as described above. He has three yards, over 100 industry tracks and switches about 300 cars during an operating session. We also signed up a new member at the meeting.

Our next Division meeting will be on Saturday November 23 at the Round Rock Library beginning at 10:15 am. **Frank Glatzl** will present a clinic titled "How to scratch build turnouts". We will have our normal show and tell table, social time and Deal or Duds session.

After the meeting, we will tour **Phil Sharpnack's** P.H.I.L. – Pacific Hauling & Industrial Lines Southwest Branch RR. The library is located at 216 E. Main St. in Round Rock. On I-35, exit at RR 620 (Exit 252B) and proceed East on RR 620 for a few blocks to the intersection with Main St. and continue East on Main St. for another block and half to the library.

We do all communications about our Division 4 meetings via email. If you are not receiving emails about our Division meetings, that means I do not have a valid email address for you. Please send your email address to Elmermerk@aol.com

The Austin Model RR Jamboree was held on October 26 with many vendors, clinics and many layout tours. We had a table there to represent the NMRA as described above.

November is National Model RR month. I always have an open house tour of my railroad for my neighbors. We invite them to bring children and grandchildren and operate some trains. This is done as part of the layout tour program with the Austin Model RR Jamboree.

On the operating front, **David Barrow, Pete Guy, David Nicastro** and I have routine operating sessions.

We have continued work on the 2014 LSR Convention which will be held in Round Rock June 4 – 8, 2014. Our web site is now in operation at bluebonnetlimited.com. You can also follow us on twitter @bluebonnet2014 and on Facebook at bluebonnet limited 2014. On Facebook, you will find a musical slide show describing our convention plans. We will be adding more information to the web site, so check it often.

Until next time, try an operating session. You will like it!

Division 5

by Dave Lamberts
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806.792.7244

A note from Bob Roth, president of the Amarillo Railroad Museum (ARM):

> Concerning the Open House at the ARM today [November 9th, ed] in celebration of National Model Railroad Month I feel it was an overwhelming success as we had a good number of people visit the ARM and we were filmed by KAMR (Channel 4) and KVII (Channel 7). I spent the day out at the garden and while it took most of the day, I was able to complete the loop of track and run the train all the way around the garden.
>
> Bob Roth
> President
> Amarillo Railroad Museum

The Clovis Area Train Society held an open house on August 11, 2013 and invited members of our club to attend. Several did and a good time was had by all.

We have recently (the last few months) started having modeling contests just within the confines of our club. The first contest was for rolling stock and the second (last month) was for structures. These have been well received and have kindled some interest in actually doing some modeling.

Division 7

by Don Kimmell
elf4kcs@mac.com
318.798.7718

Hello again from North Louisiana. I guess I need to get right to upcoming events.

First off, a treat for all the folks from Gulf Coast of Texas…. the KCS' Holiday Express will be making 7 stops this year in your area!

Here is the Schedule:

Date/Day	City	Address
29 Nov/Fri	Port Arthur	401 Houston Ave
30 Nov/Sat	Kendleton	KCS Intermodal Yard
1 Dec/Sun	Victoria	Bus Hwy 59 & Burroughsville Road
2 Dec/Mon	Edna	Wells Street
3 Dec/Tue	El Campo	Evans Park
4 Dec/Wed	Wharton	Depot 100 North Sunset Street
5 Dec/Thu	Beaumont	KCS Yard Office 4095 South MLK Pkywy
6 Dec/Fri	DeQuincy, LA	Railroad Museum 400 Lake Charles Ave

The "officially posted" start time is 4:00pm, but…. we have been known to start a bit earlier. Generally, if you have any children/grandchildren/kids, either get there early, or wait a bit, figure that we will go at least 4 hours, or until the last child gets to see Santa. I will not be on this leg again this year, I am still "paying to play", but as usual, I shall go north and freeze, again. Thought: if you do visit the train this year, be sure to say hello to a couple of our LSR members-they will be dressed as Elves. I know **Jim N.** from Ft Worth will be on board, not sure who else yet.

On the model train front, the **Ark-La-Tex Club** was invited to set-up at the National Train Show in Atlanta this past July. This was the 4th time we have participated in the "Nationals", and as usual it was a blast! Great crowds, huge number of kids with parents/grandparents/friends and neighbors! Seeing as we were going to be there in Atlanta anyway, a couple of us also attended the convention. It was great!

This was the first national convention I have attended, but I am sure it will not be the last. If you ever get the chance, go to one! The clinics were too numerous to mention, covering about everything you want/need/wish to know!

The tours also were great, in fact I always thought the traffic was bad in a couple of the larger cities in the LSR, well guys, nothing against Texas, but I'll tell you, Atlanta is one massive, continuously ongoing traffic mess, like 9:30pm…

on a Sunday night!! We really loved those tour bus drivers, sit back and enjoy the ride!! Met many other model railroaders from all over the country and a couple from Australia, England and South Africa. It was great!

On the train show front, don't forget the Longview show in March; I know it is a bit early, but start thinking about it!

That is about it from around here, I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Texas Gulf Division 8

by Leslie Bodak
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281.486.0709

Division 8 has had a busy summer. Our July clinic on making molds and was given by **Barry Bogs**. Barry showed us how to make molds and shared many of his tricks that he learned along the way. This was a great clinic and inspired several to take a stab at making their own molds and castings.

Our August clinic was scratch building boxcars and was given by **Steve Barkley**. Not only did we learn about making the boxcars, we also learned about the tools of the trade that Steve likes to use. Everyone had a great time and this was a very informative clinic. Hopefully, Steve wasn't too upset when that boxcar fell apart in my hands…

In September, **Gordon Bliss** shared his wealth of knowledge on passenger car operations. This was a fun clinic and now we need to put into practice what we have learned!

October has been busy. The **Galveston Railroad Museum** hosted their annual train show. The turnout was great and the Division 8 table was a busy place. We were able to share our love of model railroading with many families.

Division 8 held their annual meeting at Zube Park. **The Houston Area Live Steamers (HALS)** had two trains running for us to ride and there were several live steam trains running as well. And yes, it did rain on us!!! It wouldn't be a trip to HALS without it. I say it rained, but it was really only sprinkles and it didn't stop the trains from running or the passengers from riding.

November looks to be busy with the annual Open House Tours. This is a wonderful time, and we are so grateful to those who so graciously open their homes to share their love of model railroading.

Remember, model railroading is fun!!

Division 6

by Tom Crosthwait
t.crosthwait@sbcglobal.net
210.647.3261

No report submitted.

Treasurer's Membership Report

By Donna Orr, Treasurer

At the beginning of August 2013 the membership was 1,120 and at the end of September 2013 the membership was 1113.
Please welcome our new members listed below:

NAME	CITY	DIVISION
Bill Burkhart	N. Richland Hills, Tx	01
Leonard Jourdan	Belle Chasse, La	02
Scott Whisler	Garland, Tx	03
Pamela Martin	Allen, Tx	03
Lori Flom	Anna, Tx	03
Joe Rios	Irving, Tx	03
Louis Lacina	Brenham, Tx	04
Ray Cone	Austin, Tx	04
Ron Ward	Austin, Tx	04
Matthew Pidcock	Killeen, T	04
Michael Lambert	Amarilla, Tx	05
Tamara Finley	San Antonio, Tx	06
Gregory Stafford	Houston, Tx	08
Lawrence Clampffer	Sugar Land, Tx	08
Larry Smith	Hockley, Tx	08
Ann Nix	Houston, Tx	08

Company Store Report

By Matthew Latham, Dispatcher Chair

Company Store Inventory as of July 14, 2013
All cars sold out.

Other items available

Cloth Region Patches $5.00 each (Only LSR Life – 35 avail.)

Auto/Window Region Decal $ .50 (1 avail.)

N Scale (13 avail.) Nevadun Decals $2.00 per sheet

HO Scale (8 avail.) & N Scale (22 avail.) Daw Cha Southern Decals $3.00 per sheet

Shipping: Please add $1.00 for patches and decals

Matthew Latham, Dispatcher
2320 Hickory Leaf Lane
Flower Mound, TX 75022-4945
972-358-6168
E-mail: wnrailway@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Report

By Donna Orr, Treasurer

For the Second Fiscal Quarter of 2013/2014

Beginning Balance 08/01/2013	
LSR Checking Account	$8.123.93
Vanguard CD Fund	$20,353.56
Vanguard Convention Fund	$10,002.76
Acct receivable for 2014 Convention	$500.00
Total LSR Net Worth	$38,980.25
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth	
Funds Held For Division 4	$3,501.10
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	$200.00*
Funds in escrow pending raffle resolution	$1,439.17
LSR Proceeds	
Vanguard CD Fund Interest	$2.29
Vanguard Convention Fund Interest	$1.12
NMRA Region Rebate	$955.00
Convention Proceeds	$8.017.27
Total Proceeds	$8.975.68
LSR Disbursements	
Convention Proceeds Div 1	$2,080.91
Convention Proceeds Div 3	$2,080.91
Transfer of Div 1 Funds	$3,336.50
Transfer of Div 3 Funds	$1,208.30
Contest Expenses	$134.49
Total Disbursements	$8,841.11
Net Proceeds/ Disbursements	$134.57
Ending Balance 10/30/2013	
LSR Checking Accounts Total	$8,254.99
Vanguard CD Fund	$20,353.85
Vanguard Convention Fund	$10,003.98
Acct receivable for 2014 Convention	$2,000.00
Total LSR Net Worth	$38,614.82
Not included in Total LSR Net Worth	
Funds Held For Division 4	$3,501.10
Funds Held For Zahn Donation	$200.00*

* These funds are restricted and will become unrestricted at $200.00 per year in April to comply with terms of donation.

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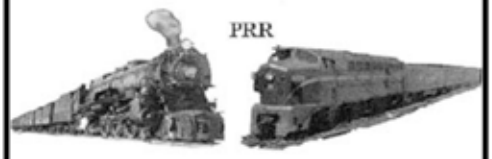

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February 2014

Deadline for submissions is January 15

The Marker Lamp

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